

DIVISION OF MINERAL MINING PROCEDURES MANUAL		PROCEDURE NO.	2.5.00
		ISSUE DATE	05/21/97
SUBJECT	Inspection Frequency: Safety	Section	Enforcement
		Last Revised	09/21/95

OBJECTIVE AND INTENT:

An established policy is needed to provide consistent interpretation of the inspection frequency requirement for safety inspections on mineral mine sites. All surface mines not inspected by MSHA must be inspected for safety by DMM Mine Inspectors at least once during the fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) and all underground mines must be inspected for safety by DMM at least twice a year . Additional safety inspections are required on selected operations due to the level of risk associated with the site.

Under normal circumstances this requirement can be met by the Mine Inspector by careful scheduling of inspections. There are situations which can create a critical problem in successfully achieving frequency by the end of the fiscal year. These include: 1) changes in MSHA inspection status; 2) issuance of mining permits during end of the fiscal year; 3) sites which change their licensing status during the fiscal year; and 4) multiple mining operations which are not consistently inspected by MSHA due to intermittent activity or rotational usage by the mining company.

PROCEDURES:

Changes in MSHA Inspection Status:

- This policy covers safety inspections of mining operations dropped from MSHA inspection status after the fiscal year begins.
- Information concerning the inspection status of mineral mining operations is received from MSHA every three months.
- The DMM Mineral Mining System will be updated within 30 days of receiving information from MSHA.
- The DMM Permit Section will not re-evaluate mining operations concerning changes in inspection status between April 1 and June 30 of the fiscal year.
- A regular safety inspection will be made on all mining operations which change status from MSHA inspected to non-MSHA inspected during the fiscal year in which it changes status.
- When applicable, safety inspections required to meet “risk assessment” will be made in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{No. of Inspections} = \frac{\text{No. of Risk Inspections} \times \text{No. of days remaining in fiscal year}}{365 \text{ days}}$$

- Number of inspections will be based on rounding the answer to the nearest whole number.
- When less than the full compliment of “risk” inspection are to be made the mine inspector will weight his inspection towards completing all regular inspections before conducting any required spot inspections.
- Where the full number of “risk” inspections is not performed during the initial year in which the status of the operation has changed, inspections based on “risk” will continue during the next full fiscal year.

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New Permits:

- This policy covers safety inspections of new mining operations which come into affect during a portion of the fiscal year. The policy takes into consideration regular safety inspections and safety inspections resulting from “risk assessment”.
- Mine Inspectors will make one regular safety inspection on all new non-MSHA inspected mine sites during the fiscal year in which it is approved. Underground mines will have two regular safety inspections if permits during the first half of the fiscal year and one inspection if permitted during the second half of the fiscal year. Mines whose permits are issued during the last 10 days of the fiscal year will not be subject to inspection until the next fiscal year begins.
- Safety inspections required to meet “risk assessment” will be initiated upon the beginning of construction or mining activities.
- Safety inspections on new mine sites will be made based on the following formula:

$$\text{No. of Inspections} = \frac{\text{No. of Risk Inspections} \times \text{No. of days remaining in fiscal year}}{365 \text{ days}}$$
- Number of inspections will be based on rounding the answer to the nearest whole number.
- When less than the full compliment of “risk” inspections are to be made the mine inspector will weight his inspections towards completing all regular inspections before conducting any required spot inspections.
- Where the full number of “risk” inspections is not performed during the initial year of operations, inspections based on “risk” will continue on the sites during the next full fiscal year.

Changes in Licensing Status:

- This policy covers the inspection of non-MSHA inspected mining operations which request and are granted termination of the DMM mine license due to completion of initial reclamation.
- Upon receipt of notification of intent of the operator to terminate the DMM mining license, the Mine Inspector will ensure that a regular safety inspection has been performed on the mine site.
- The Mine Inspector will not approve the termination of the DMM mine license until such time as a regular inspection of the site has been made.

Multiple Site with MSHA Status:

- This policy covers the inspection of operations which are identified by MSHA under one company identification number where MSHA inspects only those sites actively performing mineral extraction.

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- The Mine Inspector will identify all operators who have multiple operations working under a single MSHA identification number.
- The Mine Inspector will establish whether a particular mine site has been inspected by MSHA during the previous 12 months by confirming the inspection through MSHA or by contacting the operating company and reviewing any relative information which confirms the inspection of the site by MSHA personnel.
- Where no documentation can be found the site will receive a regular safety inspection.